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Journal - Office of Legislative Counsel
Monday - 20 March 1972

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[REDACTED] 25X1

16. [REDACTED] George Murphy, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy staff, called about a story which appeared in the Washington Daily News on 17 March indicating that evidence existed concerning Israeli atomic arms. Murphy asked for our comments on the accuracy of this article.

Murphy mentioned [REDACTED] He expressed a desire for any information we might give him about this case because of the JCAE's interest in the sale of gaseous diffusion technology abroad and its interest in the International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA). 25X1

17. [REDACTED] Received a call from Colonel Dick Wood, in the Pentagon, asking if the Director had given a briefing on the Hill last Friday. I told him he had not and this satisfied his inquiry. 25X1

18. [REDACTED] Called Dale de Haan, Counsel, Senate Subcommittee on Refugees and Escapees, and expressed concern about the inaccuracies about the column by Tad Szulc in the New York Times of 19 March which reported Senator Kennedy's statements about the classified GAO report on the AID health program in Laos. See Memorandum for the Record. 25X1

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[REDACTED] 25X1
JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel

cc:

ER O/DDCI Ex/Dir [REDACTED]
Mr. Houston Mr. Clarke Mr. Thuermer

[REDACTED] DDI DDS DDS&T EA/DDP OPPB

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Evidence of Israeli A-arms reported

London Express Service

The United States has come up with evidence proving that Israel is a nuclear power, sources in London reported.

The first evidence of Israel's nuclear achievements came from a U2 spy plane flying over the Negev Desert. Sensitive to charges that it may have been spying on a friendly state, the U.S. said the plane's detection equipment had been switched on accidentally, the sources reported.

But the electronic sensors apparently did pick up unmistakable evidence of nuclear activity.

Israel denied it was engaged in nuclear research, the sources said, and claimed the plane must have picked up freak transmissions from a dye factory.

But when confronted with the American evi-

dence, Tel Aviv said it was doing nuclear research for peaceful uses.

Later, the sources said, Israel admitted it was engaged in weapons research, too.

In the past few weeks, a senior U.S. intelligence officer, in the Middle East to study the arms build-up on both sides, reported on Israel's nuclear achievements.

The sources said the same officer earlier discovered Israel's remarkable nuclear "sandwich" — the ingredients of a nuclear warhead, ready to be put together in 48 hours.

With no warhead actually assembled the Israelis can claim that they do not have the bomb.

In Cairo, the Middle East News agency yesterday quoted Egyptian President Anwar Sadat as saying that Egypt now is manufacturing

its own advanced war weapons. He gave no details.

Political sources said it was the first time Mr. Sadat disclosed that Egypt has its own weapons manufacturing program.

The agency quoted Mr. Sadat as saying: "If the enemy is producing advanced equipment in Israel, we too are producing and are on our way to producing all advanced war equipment on our land."

Mr. Sadat made no reference to any Soviet assistance in the arms production.

He said any future battle with Israel will be all inclusive: "Our enemy threatens us with an over-all war. We accept the challenge ... the battle will not be only at the Suez Canal or the Gulf of Suez but will be an over-all war as the enemy wants it."

WASH Daily News 17 MAR 72 P.S.

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